

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/821,892

Applicant(s)

TSAI ET AL

Examiner

Long Nguyen

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the IDS filed 9/28/04 and application filed 4/12/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/28/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Lawrence Eisen on 05/04/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Title

In the title, "circuits" has been changed to --circuit--.

In The Specification

On page 4, line 19, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 4, line 20, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 4, line 28, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 5, line 14, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 5, line 15, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 5, line 17, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 5, line 20, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 5, line 23, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 5, line 27, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 7, line 20, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

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On page 7, line 21, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 8, line 2, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 8, line 20, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 8, line 22, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 8, line 25, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 8, line 29, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 8, line 30, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 9, line 2, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 9, line 6, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 9, line 10, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 10, line 11, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 10, line 15, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 11, line 6, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 11, line 8, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 11, line 21, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 12, line 17, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 12, line 23, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

On page 12, line 29, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

In The Claims

Claim 1, line 17, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 2, line 2, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

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Claim 3, line 2, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 6, line 2, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 7, line 17, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 7, line 18, "controlled that" has been changed to --controlled such that--.

Claim 7, line 19, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 7, line 20, "if" has been changed to --when--.

Claim 7, line 22, "is" has been changed to --has--.

Claim 7, line 23, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 7, line 25, "if" has been changed to --when--.

Claim 7, line 26, "is" has been changed to --has--.

Claim 7, line 29, "a constant" has been changed to --a first constant--.

Claim 7, line 33, "a constant" has been changed to --a second constant--.

Claim 7, line 37, "a constant" has been changed to --a third constant--.

Claim 7, line 40, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 7, line 41, "a constant" has been changed to --a fourth constant--.

Claim 7, line 43, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 8, line 2, "the constant" has been changed to --the first to fourth constant--.

Claim 8, line 3, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 9, line 2, "the constant" has been changed to --the first to fourth constant--.

Claim 9, line 3, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 10, line 2, "wherein ' said" has been changed to --wherein said--.

Claim 11, line 2, "wherein ' said" has been changed to --wherein said--.

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Claim 12, line 2, "the constant" has been changed to --the first to fourth constant--.

Claim 12, line 3, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 17, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 18, "for" has been changed to --respectively--.

Claim 13, line 25, "a" has been changed to --the--.

Claim 13, line 31, "a" has been changed to --the--.

Claim 13, line 34, "and source" has been changed to --and said source--.

Claim 13, line 36, "a" has been changed to --the--.

Claim 13, line 39, first and second occurrences "forth" have been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 41, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 43, "a" has been changed to --the--.

Claim 13, line 46, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 48, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 49, "if" has been changed to --when--.

Claim 13, line 51, "is" has been changed to --has--.

Claim 13, line 52, "forth" has been changed to --fourth--.

Claim 13, line 54, "if" has been changed to --when--.

Claim 13, line 55, "is" has been changed to --has--.

Reasons For The Above Changes

The above changes were necessary to correct the minor informalities in the title, specification and claims.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. Claims 1-14 are allowed.

Claims 1, 7 and 13 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose a circuit which includes a first transistor, a second transistor, a first resistor, a second resistor, a constant current source and first to fourth currents with the recited connections and operations set forth therein. In particular, the prior art fails to disclose the circuit including first to fourth currents that are supplied to the source of the first or second transistors, or are derived from the source of the first or second transistors based on the logic value of the output signal of the comparator as recited in the claims.

Claims 2-6, 8-12 and 14 are allowed because they depend on claims 1, 7 and 13, respectively.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

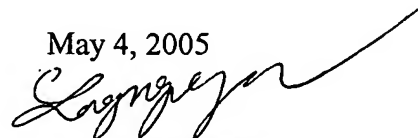
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Long Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1753. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00am to 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached at (571) 272-1740. The fax number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

May 4, 2005



LONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER